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Earth Day

National Historic Publication and Records Commission Grants

Society of American Archivists Grant

Shop Talk Webinars

History of Nevada State Parks

Every day, incredible young people in our community are making a difference

California trees rarely grew higher than 12,000 feet. Now one species has busted the record

Burgum launches broad Interior reorganization

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Reminder: Ku Stevens Documentary to View at NMA April 24-25

The Loch Ness Monster Look-Alike Lurking Beneath Lake Tahoe



“Look again at that dot. That’s here. That’s home. That’s us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. ... ” —Carl Sagan, *The Pale Blue Dot*

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) [State Board Programming Grants](#)

For projects that strengthen the nation's archival network through activities undertaken by state historical records advisory boards.

- *Draft/Letter of Inquiry Deadline: March 7, 2025*
- *Final Deadline: May 7, 2025*

Society of American Archivists

- [SAA National Disaster Recovery Fund](#) - rolling applications

ShopTalk Webinars

This series features presentations by CoSA's corporate partners, who discuss trends, innovations, and case studies. All presentations are recorded and available on [our YouTube channel](#).

Vendor Lightning Round!

Thursday, May 29, 2025 | 3 pm Eastern

Join representatives from Pagefreezer and other businesses in a fast-paced introduction to their products and services! This is your chance to discover new businesses in a friendly, no-sales pressure environment.

2024 Recordings Now Available:

- [ShopTalk with FamilySearch: What Can We Do for You?](#)
- [ShopTalk with Preservica: Using Microsoft 365 for electronic records transfers](#)
- [ShopTalk with Conserv: Beyond the Shelf-Active Environmental Monitoring for State Archives, 9/10/24](#)
- [Shop Talk Webinar with APPX: Meeting the Challenges of Processing Emails, 8/15/24](#)
- [ShopTalk with Ancestry: Unlocking the Power of Storytelling in Historical Records](#)

All those who register for any webinar will receive notice about the availability of the webinar recording. We urge all those interested in these webinars to register, even if you are unsure about your attendance.



FROM RECORDS TO STORIES

Archives as Storytellers of Democracy

2025 CoSA Annual Meeting
September 25-27 | Salt Lake City, Utah

History of Nevada State Parks

View the history of each state park:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Beaver Dam | Berlin Ichthyosaur |
| Big Bend of the Colorado | Buckland Station |
| Cathedral Gorge | Cave Lake |
| Cave Rock | Dayton |
| Echo Canyon | Elgin Schoolhouse |
| Fort Churchill | Kershaw Ryan |
| Lahontan | Mormon Station |
| Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort | Rye Patch |
| Sand Harbor | South Fork |
| Spooner Lake & Backcountry | Spring Mountain Ranch |
| Spring Valley | Valley of Fire |
| Van Sickle | Ward Charcoal Ovens |
| Washoe Lake | Wild Horse |

<https://parks.nv.gov/learn/park-histories>



Wild Horse, 1939

Every day, incredible young people in our community are making a difference — whether it's through academics, athletics or acts of service. Know a student who deserves to be recognized? [Click here to nominate them for a chance to be featured as a Star Student!](#)

California trees rarely grew higher than 12,000 feet. Now one species has busted the record“The Jeffrey pine, one of the iconic trees of the Sierra Nevada, appears to have eclipsed other pines to become the highest-elevation tree growing in California. A new study documents several Jeffrey pines well above 12,000 feet in Sequoia National Park, where they’re thought to be migrating from lower elevations — faster and farther than most trees — in a remarkable ripple of climate change. The study suggests that the Jeffrey pines “leap-frogged” over other high-elevation trees with the help of a bird known as the Clark’s nutcracker: The bird scatters the seeds of the Jeffrey sometimes far and wide as it collects, transports and stows them for later feeding. The warming climate, in turn, made it possible for the trees to sprout and thrive at soaring elevations once too cold and snowy for them to bear. ... ” [Read more from the San Francisco Chronicle.](#)

Burgum launches broad Interior reorganization

“The Interior Department is moving forward with sweeping reorganization and consolidation efforts that will be overseen by a former member of the Elon Musk-led workforce reduction team. Interior began circulating basic outlines for the reorganization last week, which a department official familiar with the plan said at the time would include consolidating communications, financial management, contracting, human resources, grants, civil rights and interactive technology. Another Interior official confirmed last week that the so-called Department of Government Efficiency, which has spearheaded President Donald Trump’s cost-cutting efforts across the government, would lead the task. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum signed a secretarial order Thursday that confirmed most of those details. ... ” [Read more from E&E News.](#)

EPA administrator Lee Zeldin says Trump deregulatory actions won’t have adverse effects on people and the environment

“Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Zeldin said Sunday that he can “absolutely” guarantee Trump administration deregulations won’t have an adverse health impacts on people and the environment. “We have to both protect the environment and grow the economy,” Zeldin said on “Face the Nation with Margaret Brennan.” As part of President Trump’s pledge to unleash American energy, Zeldin announced in March that the EPA would reconsider rules across a number of sectors, including regulations on power plants, on mercury and air toxic standards that target coal-fired power plants and on wastewater regulations for the development of oil and gas. The Trump administration touted the 31 deregulatory actions as the “most momentous day” in EPA history. The decisions are the start of what’s expected to be a yearslong effort to repeal or revise dozens of environmental rules, much to the dismay of climate experts and advocates. ... ” [Read more from CBS News.](#)

Full Text: Pope Francis' Apology to the Indigenous Peoples in Canada

'These are lands that speak to us; they enable us to remember...'



Pope Francis visits the Ermineskin cemetery in Maskwacis, south of Edmonton, western Canada, on July 25, 2022. (photo: Vincenzo Pinto / AFP/Getty)

Pope Francis [Vatican](#) July 25, 2022

Editor's Note: Please find the full text and English translation of Pope Francis' address during the meeting with Indigenous Peoples including First Nations, Métis and Inuit on July 25, 2022 in Maskwacis, an Indigenous community in the plains of Alberta.

Madam Governor General,

Mr Prime Minister,

Dear Indigenous peoples of Maskwacis and of this land of Canada,

Dear brothers and sisters! I have been waiting to come here and be with you! Here, from this place associated with painful memories, I would like to begin what I consider a penitential pilgrimage. I have come to your native lands to tell you in person of my sorrow, to implore God's forgiveness, healing and reconciliation, to express my closeness and to pray with you and for you.

I recall the meetings we had in Rome four months ago. At that time, I was given two pairs of moccasins as a sign of the suffering endured by indigenous children, particularly those who, unfortunately, never came back from the residential schools. I was asked to return the moccasins when I came to Canada, and I will do so at the end of these few words, in which I would like to reflect on this symbol, which over the past few months has kept alive my sense of sorrow, indignation and shame. The memory of those children is indeed painful; it urges us to work to ensure that every child is treated with love, honour and respect. At the same time, those moccasins also speak to us of a path to follow, a journey that we desire to make together. We want to walk together, to pray together and to work together, so that the sufferings of the past can lead to a future of justice, healing and reconciliation.

That is why the first part of my pilgrimage among you takes place in this region, which from time immemorial has seen the presence of indigenous peoples. These are lands that speak to us; they enable us to *remember*.

To remember: brothers and sisters, you have lived on these lands for thousands of years, following ways of life that respect the earth which you received as a legacy from past generations and are keeping for those yet to come. You have treated it as a gift of the Creator to be shared with others and to be cherished in harmony with all that exists, in profound fellowship with all living beings. In this way, you learned to foster a sense of family and community, and to build solid bonds between generations, honoring your elders and caring for your little ones. A treasury of sound customs and teachings, centered on concern for others, truthfulness, courage and respect, humility, honesty and practical wisdom!

Yet if those were the first steps taken in these lands, the path of remembrance leads us, sadly, to those that followed. The place where we are gathered renews within me the deep sense of pain and remorse that I have felt in these past months. I think back on the tragic situations that so many of you, your families and your communities have known; of what you shared with me about the suffering you endured in the residential schools. These are traumas that are in some way reawakened whenever the subject comes up; I realize too that our meeting today can bring back old memories and hurts, and that many of you may feel uncomfortable even as I speak. Yet it is right to remember, because forgetfulness leads to indifference and, as has been said, “the opposite of love is not hatred, it’s indifference... and the opposite of life is not death, it’s indifference” (Elie Wiesel). To remember the devastating experiences that took place in the residential schools hurts, angers, causes pain, and yet it is necessary.

It is necessary to remember how the policies of assimilation and enfranchisement, which also included the residential school system, were devastating for the people of these lands. When the European colonists first arrived here, there was a great opportunity to bring about a fruitful encounter between cultures, traditions and forms of spirituality. Yet for the most part that did not happen. Again, I think back on the stories you told: how the policies of assimilation ended up systematically marginalizing the indigenous peoples; how also through the system of residential schools your languages and cultures were denigrated and suppressed; how children suffered physical, verbal, psychological and spiritual abuse; how they were taken away from their homes at a young age, and how that indelibly affected relationships between parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren.

I thank you for making me appreciate this, for telling me about the heavy burdens that you still bear, for sharing with me these bitter memories. Today I am here, in this land that, along with its ancient memories, preserves the scars of still open wounds. I am here because the first step of my penitential pilgrimage among you is that of again asking forgiveness, of telling you once more that I am deeply sorry. Sorry for the ways in which, regrettably, many Christians supported the colonizing mentality of the powers that oppressed the indigenous peoples. I am sorry. I ask forgiveness, in particular, for the ways in which many members of the Church and of religious communities cooperated, not least through their indifference, in projects of cultural destruction and forced assimilation promoted by the governments of that time, which culminated in the system of residential schools.

Although Christian charity was not absent, and there were many outstanding instances of devotion and care for children, the overall effects of the policies linked to the residential schools

were catastrophic. What our Christian faith tells us is that this was a disastrous error, incompatible with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is painful to think of how the firm soil of values, language and culture that made up the authentic identity of your peoples was eroded, and that you have continued to pay the price of this. In the face of this deplorable evil, the Church kneels before God and implores his forgiveness for the sins of her children (Pope John Paul II, *Incarnationis Mysterium*). I myself wish to reaffirm this, with shame and unambiguously. I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the indigenous peoples.

Dear brothers and sisters, many of you and your representatives have stated that begging pardon is not the end of the matter. I fully agree: that is only the first step, the starting point. I also recognize that, “looking to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient” and that, “looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening” (*Letter to the People of God*, 20 August 2018). An important part of this process will be to conduct a serious investigation into the facts of what took place in the past and to assist the survivors of the residential schools to experience healing from the traumas they suffered.

I trust and pray that Christians and civil society in this land may grow in the ability to accept and respect the identity and the experience of the indigenous peoples. It is my hope that concrete ways can be found to make those peoples better known and esteemed, so that all may learn to walk together. For my part, I will continue to encourage the efforts of all Catholics to support the indigenous peoples. I have done so at various times and occasions, through meetings, appeals and also through the writing of an Apostolic Exhortation. I realize that all this will require time and patience. We are speaking of processes that must penetrate hearts. My presence here and the commitment of the Canadian Bishops are a testimony to our will to persevere on this path.

Dear friends, this pilgrimage is taking place over several days and in places far distant from one another; even so, it will not allow me to accept the many invitations I have received to visit centers like Kamloops, Winnipeg and various places in Saskatchewan, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Nonetheless, please know that all of you are in my thoughts and in my prayer. Know that I am aware of the sufferings and traumas, the difficulties and challenges, experienced by the indigenous peoples in every region of this country. The words that I speak throughout this penitential journey are meant for every native community and person. I embrace all of you with affection.

On this first step of my journey, I have wanted to make space for memory. Here, today, I am with you to recall the past, to grieve with you, to bow our heads together in silence and to pray before the graves. Let us allow these moments of silence to help us interiorize our pain. Silence. And prayer. In the face of evil, we pray to the Lord of goodness; in the face of death, we pray to the God of life. Our Lord Jesus Christ took a grave, which seemed the burial place of every hope and dream, leaving behind only sorrow, pain and resignation, and made it a place of rebirth and resurrection, the beginning of a history of new life and universal reconciliation. Our own efforts are not enough to achieve healing and reconciliation: we need God’s grace. We need the quiet and powerful wisdom of the Spirit, the tender love of the Comforter. May he bring to fulfilment

the deepest expectations of our hearts. May he guide our steps and enable us to advance together on our journey.

Despite papal apology, some Native Americans find it hard to forgive

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/despite-papal-apology-some-native-americans-find-it-hard-forgive>

The pope's apology tour has some conspicuous gaps — let's start with Junipero Serra

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/pope-s-apology-tour-has-some-conspicuous-gaps-let-s-start-junipero-serra>

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<https://www.house.gov> > [feature-stories](#) > **2015-9-24-pope-addresses-congress**

#### **[Pope Addresses Congress - house.gov](#)**

The Pope, who became the first pontiff to address Congress, thanked lawmakers for their warm welcome. "I am most grateful for your invitation to address this joint session of Congress," he said. "Each son or daughter of a given country has a mission, a personal and social responsibility. Your own responsibility as members of Congress is to ...

#### **'An affront to our great Indian population': Trump rages as school ordered to swap mascots**

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President Donald [Trump](#) on Monday weighed in on what he called a "very important issue" creating waves in a small Long Island community after the Massapequa School Board asked the [MAGA](#) leader to help them keep their district's Native American logo.

"I agree with the people in Massapequa, Long Island, who are fighting furiously to keep the Massapequa Chiefs logo on their Teams and School," Trump wrote in a Truth Social [post](#). "Forcing them to change the name, after all of these years, is ridiculous and, in actuality, an affront to our great Indian population."

The presidential remarks came roughly a month after a judge ruled against Massapequa in a legal tussle with the state Board of Regents, which in 2023 required the removal of Native American names and imagery from all [New York](#) public schools in a statewide mandate, according to media [reports](#).

"The School Board, and virtually everyone in the area, are demanding the name be kept. It has become the School's identity and, what could be wrong with using the name, 'Chief'?" Trump told his followers on Monday. "I don't see the [Kansas City Chiefs](#) changing their name anytime soon!"

Trump, who has in recent weeks [increased his attacks](#) against judges at odds with his second-term policies, then directed his "highly capable Secretary of Education, [Linda McMahon](#), to fight for the people of Massapequa on this very important issue."

Scholarships (F-W) with MayS 31 Deadline

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Florence Smith Powers Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| For A Bright Future Scholarship Programs | \$10,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Fourth Circuit High School Essay Contest | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Francis D. Lyon Fellowship | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| Frank DeBenedetti Memorial Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Fully Bloomed Scholarship | \$500 | May 31, 2025 |
| | | |
| G.B. Mann Scholarship | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| Girls for Gaming Scholarship | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| | | |
| Harvesters Scholarship Foundation Scholarship | Varies | May 31, 2025 |
| Herbert Roback Scholarship | \$7,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| Hill County Master Gardener Scholarship in Horticultural Studies | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Holly Scanlan Foundation Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| IIAR Founders' Engineering Scholarship | \$9,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| | | |
| Lawrence "Uncle Bo" Campos Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Lead with Languages Teacher Scholarship | \$6,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| LGBTQA+ Fashion Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Lily Pabilona Emerging Entrepreneur Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Lisa Michelle Memorial Fund Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
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| Parkinson Association of the Rockies Eric Wright Memorial Fund | \$20,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Passion to Succeed Student Scholarship | \$6,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| PATCH Scholarship Program | \$750 | May 31, 2025 |
| Pedestrian Education Video Scholarship Competition | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Provident Foundation Scholarship | \$3,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Ridgeline International Community Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Ridgeline International Community Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Rizing Tide Crest Scholarship | \$28,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Robert R. Robinson Scholarship | \$1,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| RTK Scholars Program | \$1,500 | May 31, 2025 |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| S.C. International Trade Conference Scholarships | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| S.I.S.T.A.s of Middle Georgia Scholarship | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Sage Michaela Lucas Timing is Everything Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| SBB Research Group STEM Scholarship | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| Sheep Heritage Foundation Memorial Scholarship | \$3,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| SMA Foundation Student Scholarship | Varies | May 31, 2025 |
| Soenga Scholars Fund | Varies | May 31, 2025 |
| SoFi Ambition Sweepstakes | \$20,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Sonny Roden Memorial Graduate Student Scholarship | \$3,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Soozie Courter Hemophilia Scholarship Program | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| SRK Consulting Graduate Scholarship | \$3,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| STEM To Flowers Scholarship | \$500 | May 31, 2025 |
| Summer Labroots Research | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| | | |
| Temple Hoyne Buell Memorial Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| The Barillas Foundation Project v.1.24 Scholarship | \$1,098 | May 31, 2025 |
| The CAPTRUST Scholarship | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| The Criswell Davis Scholarship | \$1,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| The Goldie Initiative Scholarship Application | \$15,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| The JDP Scholarship Fund | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| The Lacek Group BIPOC Scholarship | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| The Tony & Jean DiFebbo Trust Scholarship | Varies | May 31, 2025 |
| Thyroid Research Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Timothy S. and Palmer W. Bigelow, Jr. Scholarship | \$2,000 | May 31, 2025 |
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| Usrey Family Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| VA AWWA Ray A. Jackson Undergraduate Student Scholarship | \$3,500 | May 31, 2025 |
| VWEA Undergraduate Scholarship | \$3,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| | | |
| Washington Council of Police & Sheriffs Scholarship | \$1,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| Wayne Community College Scholarships | Full-Tuition | May 31, 2025 |
| We The Future Contest | \$5,000 | May 31, 2025 |
| WomenIn Scholarship | \$2,500 | May 31, 2025 |



Reminder: "Remaining Native," a documentary about **Ku Stevens'** running career, will be shown in Reno April24-25 at the Nevada Museum of Art.

The Loch Ness Monster Look-Alike Lurking Beneath Lake Tahoe

Legends of Tahoe Tessie go back centuries.

THE UNPLEASANT SERPENT COGGIN DECLARES HE SAW AT LAKE TAHOE

The following is related by well-known citizens of San Francisco, manager of the Park Hotel. It is presented unaccompanied by affidavit, and may be accepted or not by anybody who chooses to believe it.

The story of a sea serpent comes from many sources and from people of unnoted veracity that it cannot be doubted that there is living in the Atlantic Ocean a serpent of monstrous size, but it remains for California, with its remains of gigantic monsters scattered all over its surface and where animal life attained its greatest perfection, to have a serpent one living within its borders much larger than any described by so many witnesses.

It was my fortune to be one of the earliest settlers on the west shore of Lake Tahoe—from June, 1850, to 1850. I located a meadow and was engaged in cutting wild hay for the market on the Placerville road. In the fall of 1850, in the month of November, I took my gun and monoplane and started for home, eight miles away, running as fast as dog could run, and getting under the cabin staid there two days and nights and no amount of coaxing could get him to come out sooner, and never after would the dog go in the direction of the lake. I began to feel that some unknown danger was near, and looking about me, saw a spruce tree with very thick limbs, standing near a very large pine. I climbed up about sixty feet from the ground and began to look up. The canyon. I had not long to wait. I heard a sound as if the dead limbs of trees, willows and alders that grew in the cañons were being broken and crushed. Soon the monster appeared, slowly making his way in the direction where I was hidden. Within fifty feet of where I was, and as his snoutship got by, and I partly recovered to estimate his immense size. After his head had passed my eye about seventy feet, he halted and reared his head in the air fifty feet or more, and I was thankful that the large pine hid me from his sight, and I dared to breathe again as he lowered his head to the ground and moved on.

His monstrous head was about fourteen feet wide, and the large eyes seemed to be about eight inches in diameter, and shining jet black, and seemed to project more than half his size from the head. The neck was about ten feet, and the body in the largest portion must have been twenty feet in diameter. I had a chance to measure his length, for when he halted his tail reached a fallen tree, and I afterward measured the distance from the tree where I was hidden to the fallen tree and it measured 510 feet, and as seventy or eighty feet had passed me, it made his length about 600 feet. The skin was black on the back, turning to a reddish yellow on the side and belly, and must have been very hard and tough, as small trees two and three inches in diameter were crushed and broken without any effect on his tough hide. From howlers of 500 or 600 pounds weight lying on the surface of the ground were pushed out of the way. His snoutship slowly made his way to the lake, glided in and swam toward the foot.

This serpent has been seen by several of the old settlers at the lake since that time, but it was generally agreed that it would be useless to tell the world the story, knowing that it would not be believed. I will give a few names of the early settlers that have seen his snoutship at different times since I first saw him. William Poinin, now living in San Francisco; John McKinstry, Ben McCoy and Bill McMaster, all at that time living on Sugar Pine Point; Homer Burton, now living in Sacramento; Captain Howland of the old steamer Governor Halliday; Tony and Ezra, fishermen living near Friday's station; Robt. Sherton, now at the lake, and several others could be named.

I know many will doubt this story, but sooner or later his snoutship will be seen by so many that all doubt will be removed. I was induced to write this description by reading an article in THE CALL of last Sunday, stating that there was a living monster in Alaska and that it had been seen by the natives. Believing that I have seen a more wonderful sight and, as in time my story is sure to be verified, I venture to give it to the public.

J. C. COGGIN.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/tahoe-tessie? kx=7f1X QqLbWXEK-WrshkdW1JpNQRDL7kJxHOciLDFDSE.UUnqkC>

Today in History: In 1889, the Oklahoma Land Rush began as thousands staked claims to land formerly part of Indian Territory